

NOT DECIDED WHO WILL COACH TEAM

Several Old Varsity Players Mentioned as Likely Choice of Advisory Board.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
 Charlottesville, Va., December 10.—At its next meeting, the advisory board of the University of Virginia will take up the question of the choice of a baseball coach for next spring. Several names are under consideration, all of them, of course, former players at Virginia, for the alumni system of coaching is in vogue under the present code. Among the men mentioned are "Bill" Mellor, a pitcher of considerable prominence in the New England League, who was at the university in '98; "Nick" Carter, formerly of the Philadelphia National League team, and Percy Dalton, now of the Newark Club, of the Eastern League. Carter was a star twirler in his day at the university, and defeated many of the big Eastern colleges. Dalton was one of the best outfielders that ever wore the Orange and Blue. He was a heavy hitter and a sure fielder. He played for a while with the Brooklyn Club, and in one game against the Giants secured five hits off Matthews. His home is in the Valley of Virginia. The selection of either of the above named players would be satisfactory to the advisory board. The board expects also to derive much benefit from the practice games with the Washington Club, of the American League, provided the Nationals go into spring training here.

AMUSEMENTS

Academy—Oberammergau.
 Bijou—"The Stamped."

Some Wonderful Pictures.

Henry Ellsworth, who will appear at the Academy to-night, Tuesday and Wednesday, with matinees Tuesday and Wednesday, with his picture, "The Oberammergau," is a picture of a picture. It is a production of Oberammergau, its people and their "Passion Play" of 1910, narrates an interesting story of the first harvest of the people of the Bavarian village. "Oberammergau," never owned a house, he said. "The Oberammergau" was carried on the shoulders of the paupers from the residence to the cemetery in the little village church yard. In 1907 the village ordered a special house made in Munich. It was present at a fair, and time, and until the village found a proper place to house it, they stored the house in the rear of the Passion Play Theatre. The little children ran up and neeped through the cracks at what they called the "death wagon," and then a great crowd of people gathered. The house remained in the Passion Play Theatre for six weeks before it was used. There was considerable conjecture among the Oberammergauers as to who would be the first to use it. Strange to say, the first was an American, the Rev. Mr. McCracken, pastor of the American church in Munich. He frequently visited Oberammergau. I met him every summer. On his death bed, his last words were: "Bury me at Oberammergau." He was buried at the funeral, and at least one of the Oberammergauers followed the house to the spot where the body was interred. It now rests in the shadow of the Kofel Mountain, on whose peak stands the great Kofel Cross.

Al. H. Wilson, the German dialect comedian, who comes to the Academy on Thursday night and Saturday night, is a central character in his latest play, "A German Prince," has a clientele throughout the country that equals the proportions of that enjoyed by such noted stars as J. K. Emmett and Joseph Jefferson. "A German Prince" is said to be the best vehicle so far provided for Mr. Wilson. It is from the pen of the late A. C. Gunter, and the scenes are laid in the city of Coblenz, on the picturesque River Rhine, and in the Aspidan Tyrol. During the performance, Mr. Wilson will render several new songs, which will render noted of which are "Her Smile," "Still As the Night," "When You Part From the Girl You Love" and "Some Day You'll Know."

"The Stamped," which will be presented at the Bijou all this week, with matinees Tuesday and Saturday, is said to be a great play, and one of the most meritorious attractions which has ever been presented in this city at the Academy a year ago, and those who saw it will bear out the statement that it is a great show. It has lost none of its attractiveness.

Miss Lillian Buckingham, who made such a favorable impression through her wonderful portrayal of the character of Wang, an educated half-breed who last here again be seen in this fascinating character.

SAM McVEY DEFEATS LESTER IN EIGHTH ROUND OF BOXING BOUT

Risbane, Queensland, December 11.—Sam McVey, of California, heavy-weight champion pugilist of Australia, defeated Jack Lester, of Cle Elum, Wash., today in the eighth round. McVey had all the better of the fight, which was scheduled to go ten rounds. Lester showed plenty of pluck and took an extraordinary amount of punishment about the head and ribs.

Baseball.
 Havana, December 10.—New York Nationals, 6; Almendares, 2.

VIRGINIA SATISFIED WITH TEAM MATERIAL

Showing of Football Eleven During Season Just Closed Rarely Equalled by Any College in Country.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
 Charlottesville, Va., December 10.—"Virginia is satisfied to hold on to what football material she has," said a member of the advisory board of the General Athletic Association of the University to-day, when asked what mention was made of possible new material at last night's banquet to the letter men of this year's squad at the Colonial Hotel.

All college is pretty much satisfied with the showing made during the past season, especially when it is taken into consideration that the championship game with the University of North Carolina in Richmond on Thanksgiving Day was started with only one player in the line-up of the year before—a condition of affairs that has rarely been equaled in any college in this country. For a freshman eleven to go through the season with practically a single defeat, that at the hands of the Strong Georgetown eleven, which held the Army to a tie, is no mean accomplishment and speaks volumes of praise for the men and head coach Vancey and Trainer Lanning, aside from the absence of seasoned men. The team was handicapped throughout the fall by the successive injuries to the five or six candidates for end. All of them were unfortunate throughout the fall. Each was laid off for a week or more by injuries. The team was threatened to bar the week or more season. McDonald, from the University of Mississippi, was among the first to succumb; Jones, the former Virginia Polytechnic end, had much trouble with his shoulder, and next to him was Finlay, the Sewanee athlete, and finally Wilson, who had his arm hurt in the Wake Forest contest. The line,

while not as seasoned perhaps as those of recent years, was very aggressive, and the men gave a good account of themselves. Another handicap was the absence of heavy backfield material. All of the candidates were light. One big plugging man behind the line would have made a big difference in the team's offense.

The choice of Todd as captain of next year's eleven is hailed with delight throughout the college. There was some fear that the New York lad would not return to the university next year, as he graduates from the academic department at the June commencement. He will enter the law school, however, and may remain two years longer to finish his LL. B. degree. A fine type of athlete he is, to be at the head of two branches of sport—football and track—and at the same time giving a good account of himself in his studies. With all these honors, no more modest man could be found in the student body. After the games he is among the first to rush from the field to the gymnasium, to get away from his fellow-players, who pat him on the back, and the crowd which is ever ready to applaud him.

While Virginia hopes to stand pat with the present material, at the same time she is rejoiced to hear of a number of promising football men who expect to enter the university next September. Lawrenceville, from whence a Receiver and Carter, will send down a trio of stars, including the captain and a heavy fullback. Smith, from the same school, promises to develop into varsity material next fall. Several good men will enter from the prep schools in the State. Altogether, the outlook for the season of 1912 is exceedingly flattering.

BASEBALL MEETINGS TO PREPARE FOR 1912

Members of Supreme Council of Game, Heads of Several Leagues and Presidents of Many Clubs Will Confer in New York This Week.

New York, December 10.—The baseball year of 1912 virtually begins this week. Although there remain some unsettled matters from the season of 1911, particularly the world's series ticket scandal, the main business of the several big baseball meetings here during the next three days will have to do with the new year in baseball. Each year, which is the American League, the National League and the Pacific Coast League, and the Eastern League to the new "double A" class. The respective presidents of these leagues—Chivington, Barrow and Barrow—had all arrived in New York to-day, and Secretary J. H. Farrell, of the National Association of Professional Baseball Clubs, were in consultation all afternoon. The league representatives expressed confidence of favorable action on the new proposal to call the Eastern League the "International League," owing to the fact that it contains two American clubs, would go through.

"Harmony" was also the theme of National League magnates. Opposition to the election of President T. J. Lynch, of the National League, was

certainly not in evidence in the magnates' confabs to-day. It was said generally that Mr. Lynch would be re-elected at the meeting Tuesday, and Mr. Lynch himself said so—"If the election was conducted on a business basis."

There was also peaceful talk about the protests about the long schedule. August Herrmann, of Cincinnati, said he was in favor of the 151-game schedule, but would be glad to see the season closed earlier, either in October or about a week earlier than last year. President Ban Johnson, of the American League, was on the way here to-day to complete the baseball triumph on the elevation of the American Association, the Pacific Coast League and the Eastern League to the new "double A" class. The respective presidents of these leagues—Chivington, Barrow and Barrow—had all arrived in New York to-day, and Secretary J. H. Farrell, of the National Association of Professional Baseball Clubs, were in consultation all afternoon. The league representatives expressed confidence of favorable action on the new proposal to call the Eastern League the "International League," owing to the fact that it contains two American clubs, would go through.

FIFTEEN TEAMS START IN SIX-DAY CONTEST

Thousands Cheer Riders as They Break Away on First Circuit of Race Which Will End Next Saturday Night.

New York, December 11.—Fifteen riders, representing as many teams, started at 12:01 o'clock this morning the nineteenth annual six-day bicycle race in Madison Square Garden. There was a yell from the big crowd which filled the big amphitheatre as the starting signal was given, and the riders broke away on their first circuit of the ten-lap-to-the-mile saucer track, on which the incessant round of the contestants will be kept up until 10 o'clock next Saturday night.

At the end of the first lap, Leon George led the bunched riders. At the end of the first mile, which was made in 2:34, E. A. Pye, the Australian, who teamed with Elmer Collins, of Boston, was making the pace. There are seventeen Eastern riders in this year's line-up, and four from San Francisco. Willie Lorenz, the American sprint champion of Germany, will have as a mate Karl Saldo, of Germany. This pair won the recent international six-day race in Berlin. The American sprint champion, Frank Kramer, of East Orange, N. J., and James Moran, of Chelsea, Mass., made up one of the favorite teams. Moran, with Eddie Foster, of New York, formed the winning team of last year's race, but Kramer never negotiated the six-day sprint. Jack Clarke, the Australian title-

holder, will be pitted with Joe Fogler, of Brooklyn.

The full list of starters follows:
 1. Willie Lorenz, Germany, and Karl Saldo, Germany.
 2. Leon George, France, and Maurice Brocco, Italy.
 3. Octave Lapize, France, and Cyril Van Houwaert, Belgium.
 4. Frank Kramer, East Orange, N. J., and James Moran, Chelsea, Mass.
 5. Joe Fogler, Brooklyn, and Jackie Chiles, Australia.
 6. Eddie Foster, New York, and Fred Hill, Boston.
 7. William (Pedlar) Palmer, Australia, and Fred (Jumbo) Wells, New Zealand.
 8. E. A. Pye, Australia, and Elmer Collins, Boston.
 9. Alfred Halstead, San Francisco, and Peter Drabach, Boston.
 10. John Bedell, Lynbrook, L. I., and Menus Bedell, Lynbrook, L. I.
 11. "Grassy" Ryan, Newark, N. J., and Frank Cavanaugh, Newark, N. J.
 12. George Cameron, New York, and Jake Magin, Newark, N. J.
 13. Frank Galvin, New York, and George Wiley, Syracuse.
 14. Floyd Thomas, San Francisco, and Charles Stein, Brooklyn.
 15. Walter DeMara, San Francisco, and Percy O. Lawrence, San Francisco.

Widow's Mite Depended Upon Construction of One Word by Court.
 Cincinnati, December 10.—An adverse interpretation of one word, "accrues," in a will would have cut off \$200,000 from the widow of Thomas Foster. On the construction of the will, the Circuit Court ascribed to that one word yesterday morning hinged the possession of property valued at \$200,000.

The will left to the widow "all the part and interest in my estate, real, personal and mixed, which secures to her as my widow by the laws of the State of Ohio, in case of wives who survive husbands who die intestate."

Ford Motor Cars

"The automatically oiled timer is superior to the timer on any other automobile."
 "Ask Any Automobile Expert."

TAFT AND HARMON HAVE LONG CHAT

Two Friends Spend Hour Together in Library at White House.

Washington, D. C., December 10.—Governor Judson Harmon, of Ohio, this morning called upon President William H. Taft, of Ohio. For an hour the two old friends talked things over. Just what they talked about must, of course, be left to conjecture. The Governor vouchsafed but little concerning his visit, and the White House vouchsafed nothing at all.

It is a safe bet, however, that these two leaders of opposing parties had much to say about politics. They discussed the Ohio situation, the "Boss" Cox developments, the approaching national committee meetings, and the coming national conventions.

Governor Harmon never comes to Washington without calling upon the President. And in order to make these visits as personal as possible, he always gives the Executive Mansion to see Mr. Taft instead of the executive offices. He went to the mansion this morning. He was unaccompanied. He arrived at 10:20 o'clock and stayed almost an hour.

The President received his visitor in the library, and they sat before the big open fire until it was too late for the President to go to church.

For thirty years or more Governor Harmon and the President have been friends. They are fellow-townsmen, and were neighbors in Cincinnati. Both started their national careers in the Department of Justice—the Governor as Attorney-General under Cleveland, and the President as Solicitor-General under Harrison.

TEMPTATIONS ARE GREAT THESE DAYS

So Special Police Squad Is Sent Out to Watch for Kleptomaniacs.

With the busy Christmas season on there will be many who will do their shopping without payment for the goods with which they provide their homes and persons. For that reason a special detail of police is working Broad Street to protect the merchants and crowds. Men are kept moving continually from store to store, always with their eyes open to detect those who in Police Court plead that they have been long sufferers from kleptomania. The disease is particularly rampant at this time of the year, and often at this season assumes the proportions of an epidemic. The disease is indicated by the itching palm and the propensity of the sufferer's fingers to move towards and come in contact with other people's property. The dangers close upon the object which they touch, and the object is gently and without undue commotion removed into a muff, a large pocket provided by the sufferer for the purpose or into some other receptacle which an ingenious mind can devise.

For instance, a sufferer places her muff on a counter. She has her right hand concealed within the muff. With the left hand, while the clerk is looking elsewhere, she gently pulls some piece of embroidery which will match her suit and complexion to the other end of the muff. The right hand is unconsciously extended, and the article disappears inside the muff. Then the sufferer languidly declares that she believes she doesn't really want anything after all, and out she goes with the article.

There are other methods, but this is sufficient to illustrate. Clerks, say the police, had better beware of long muffs and bulging pockets. They are nearly always sure indications that the wearer is suffering from what scientists call kleptomania, and what Justice Crutcheff calls stealing. But what's in a name, they say? Kleptomania by any other word would sound as sweet.

Waverly Electric Victoria \$500

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 313 West Main.

Built to Serve
 Highest Price and Best.
 W. C. SMITH & CO.,
 314 N. Fifth. Vine and Main.

The buyer who knows the difference in automobiles will own a

Jones Motor Car Co.
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16 OUNCES OF QUALITY IN EVERY POUND.
 The Virginian Motor Car

For 30 Years the House of Quality.
 Straus, Gunst & Co.,
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 Drink Old Henry.
 Its Long Record Proves Its Merit.

ARNOLD BENNETT TAKES OF AMERICA

Novelist Saw No Hustle and Says People Are Not Boastful and Vulgar.

DECLARES STAGE IS BAD

Best After Dinner Speeches He Heard Made by Two Women Writers.

London, December 10.—Arnold Bennett, who arrived from New York on Tuesday, has given his impressions of America and things American. He said: "New York is a wonderful place, but then so are all the other cities I visited—Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Minneapolis and Chicago. "Two things struck me during the last weeks I have been away from England, first that Americans are not the boastful, vulgar people that they are represented as being, although they have, indeed, much to boast of; second, they do understand the science of comfort, not only in the hotels, but in their homes. "When I recall the search I made some years ago for furnished apartments in London, and found that in one, which advertised itself as for persons of distinction, the newly installed bath was held up as a great favorite with visitors. I was astonished at the remarkable difference in American houses and hotels, where there is in many cases a bathroom for each inhabitant. "As a novelist, I was enormously interested in everything concerning books. The book shops are splendid, not only in size, but in arrangement. The great departments of the great stores surpass anything we have in this country. Reading is popular in America. "You ask me, Am I for or against America? No, I cannot answer a plain yes or no. It is far too big a subject, but I am decidedly not for American literature, which I found extremely bad and unsatisfactory. "Another illusion which I had dispelled, that of the excellent after-dinner speaking, which in New York were not those of Governor Dix and Governor Harvey, but those of two women writers—Kae Douglass Wiggin and Josephine Dodge. "As to the hustle and rush which are considered so typically American, I saw practically none. People walk along the streets and are preoccupied, but the same is true of nine-tenths of the people one meets in the Strand. "What a magnificent street Fifth Avenue is! With a distance of five miles to the East side, which does not penetrate into the West End as the East Enders of London occasionally make their presence felt in our West End. They keep more apart, and it is characteristic of the inhabitants that, when in October, the Italians, the East side were still festooning the outside of their houses with bed clothes and bedding, which so badly needed an airing. "Washington is still in the making. When it is finished, it will be a capital worthy of the United States, but at present it is a city of the future. "Boston is a centre of real culture, singularly English in appearance. Indeed, some of the streets might have been taken straight out of London, or Kensington. "Philadelphia is much brighter and livelier than its Quaker City title suggests. "Chicago is ugly, but immense. Perhaps I should not have expected much art in the exterior of Chicago. I certainly found little, but I was fascinated by the organization of the vast stores, the great factories, and the great industrial plants, over which I was taken by the heads of these corporations. Remarkable alertness struck me as being characteristic of the methods in these enormous aggregations of people, and the men in the head gave me a singular sense of power and ability. "As regards the social life which I encountered, I was perhaps too much entertained to get a proper perspective of American home life. I believe it is fairly truthfully represented in American fiction, and they are, as people, certainly singularly receptive to new ideas. "Many social functions, medical men and others, to whom I had not been introduced, would frankly come to ask me my views upon some matter of general interest; and my opinions of public affairs, which, as you know, were held here for a long time. I made no difference in my reception, although I was in the houses of the trust magnates and insurance presidents, but were eagerly sought for. "I have come back full of ideas and full of interest in things American, which I will endeavor to embody in the series of articles I am now going abroad to write. "American plays and playhouses are frankly bad, and now I understand better why many American plays better when produced in London. It is not the fault of the actors, who are quite on a level with our own; it is the fault of the plays. "Everything connected with the stage in America—the theatres, plays, the methods of production, the acting, etc.—struck me as inferior to those of our best London theatres; but so gratifying was my reception that I ought not to say a word in condemnation of anything American."

Several months ago a negro named Henry Williams was arrested in this city, charged with criminal assault in Prince George county, the alleged victim being a colored girl. Williams was held here for a reasonable time, and the county authorities failing to send for him, he was released. He left the city, and, returning, was re-arrested yesterday, a warrant having been issued for him in the county. He will be held for trial.

Tampering With Train.
 Joseph Lorch, a negro, and a stranger, in these parts, was arrested yesterday afternoon on the charge of tampering with and endangering the safety of a Norfolk and Western train. The negro stole aboard an east-bound freight train at Wilson's, in Dinwiddie, for a free ride, as is supposed, to Petersburg. The train was a through freight to Norfolk, and did not come to Petersburg, but branched off at Addison's onto the Belt Line. As it did so the negro turned the angle cock, which works the brakes, and brought the train to such a sudden stop that it took three seconds and some of the cars were damaged. The negro was seen to jump from the car and made his escape. A description of him was telegraphed to the police at Petersburg, and when the eastbound passenger train, due here at 4 o'clock, arrived, Lorch was found aboard, and was arrested. He denies the charge of interfering with the train, though he acknowledges having boarded a train at Wilson's. He will be held for the Dinwiddie authorities, and will be prosecuted by the railway company.

Some time Friday afternoon, stores of Dillard & McCoy, on Halifax Street, was broken into through a rear window. The cash register was robbed of between \$5 and \$10, but as far as known nothing else was taken. George Ellis, a negro, was arrested as the suspected thief.

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Turbulent Negroes.
 Special Officer Ernie Collier, in the service of the Coast Line Railroad, was called upon at Dunlop's, in Chesterfield county, late Saturday night to dislodge some negroes from a freight train. The negroes ignored orders to move, and resisted arrest. The officer was forced to use his pistol, though he did not wound any of the negroes. The officer was attacked with rocks by the negroes, was struck several times and bruised and cut. He arrested one of the gang—Spurgeon Simmons by name—and brought him to jail here. Simmons was well armed with rocks.

Proposed New County.
 A movement has been inaugurated for the formation of a new county out of portions of Southampton, Sussex and Surry counties, with Wakefield as the county seat. Sentiment of the people in the counties in the vicinity of Wakefield is said to be strongly in favor of the new county, and the movement is to be pushed.

Joint Unveiling Ceremonies.
 A large number of members and friends of the Order of Woodmen of the World gathered in Blandford Cemetery this afternoon to participate in the unveiling of monuments to the memory of deceased Woodmen. Three camps joined in the ceremonies—Oakwood Camp, of Petersburg, which unveiled monument over the graves of J. Beverly Harrison and John L. Curry; Appomattox Camp, of Ettrick, which performed like act of remembrance over the grave of H. A. Robinson; and White Oak Camp, of Disputant, which unveiled the monument to J. F. Davis.

The exercises were of a very impressive character, and an eloquent memorial oration was delivered by the Rev. George E. Booker, D. D.

All of the valuable books and records of A. P. Hill camp of Confederate Veterans were destroyed in the great fire of December 3 of last year. The records were in the keeping of Adjutant C. R. Bishop, the cashier of the Appomattox Bank, which building was destroyed. The camp has since been endeavoring to restore the lost records as far as possible.

Ordered to Report.
 Lieutenant S. T. Gerow, of this city, a recent graduate of West Point, has been ordered to report to the commanding officer at Washington barracks not later than December 23 for duty in the Philippines. From thence he will go to Port Leavenworth for instruction, after which he will join the

FEAR BOND ISSUE WILL BE DEFEATED

Rumor Gains Credence That It Cannot Pass Board of Aldermen.

STRONG PRESSURE EXERTED

People Will Be Out in Force to Secure Its Passage.

Times-Dispatch Bureau.
 5 Bollingbrook Street.
 Telephone 1485.
 Petersburg, Va., December 10.—Public sentiment seems strongly to favor the proposed bond issue of \$212,000 for permanent public improvements, and rumors having gained credence that the ordinance providing for the issue, which has passed in the lower branch of the Council, will be beaten in the Board of Aldermen tomorrow night, great pressure is being brought to bear on that body to concur in the action of the Council. The new street improvements, of the extension of the sewer system, of water mains, of bridges over the Appomattox, of a new almshouse, of additional public schools, etc., for which the bond issue is designed, is recognized by the progressive people of the city.

Advocates of the bond issue will be present in large force to-morrow night at the meeting of the Aldermen to urge concurrence in the ordinance. The majority of the members of the Board favor the issue, but it requires a three-fourths vote of the entire membership to pass the ordinance, and some doubt seems to exist whether this vote can be obtained. The Chamber of Commerce, the Retail Merchants' Association, the Civic League and the business men of the city will all be largely represented at the meeting of the Aldermen, which, if defeated, cannot come up for consideration again under six months. The matter will be threshed out from all points of view before the vote is taken.

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Chalmers MOTOR CARS

Gordon Motor Company
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Nineteenth Infantry in the Philippine Division, to which he has been assigned as Lieutenant.

Personal and Otherwise.
 Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Daniel, of Waverly, have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Ethel May, to Dr. Walter J. Young, of the chair of philosophy at Hampden-Sydney College. The marriage will take place in the Baptist Church at Waverly, December 20, at 9:30 A. M.

The Rev. R. L. Pitt, D. D., of Richmond, editor of the Itelligous Herald, preached this morning and to-night in the First Baptist Church, and this afternoon delivered an address before the Baptist Sunday School Association. The funeral of the late Henry Bird Field, of Norfolk, took place this afternoon from the residence of his father, Colonel E. M. Field, on Fifth Street.

The funeral of William F. Nimmo, of Ettrick, took place this afternoon from the Methodist Church in that village. Ten deeds of sales of real estate were recorded in the clerk's office the past week. The list embraced no important transfers.

COLONEL PERKINS'S DISMISSAL.

Howard, of Georgia, Says He Was the Victim of an Outrageous Conspiracy.
 Washington, December 10.—Representative Howard, of Georgia, charged before the Committee on Naval Affairs yesterday that Lieutenant Colonel C. M. Perkins, who was dismissed from the Marine Corps by the naval retirement board in 1907, was the victim of a conspiracy more outrageous than the Dreyfus conspiracy in France. He urged the committee to report favorably his bill providing that Colonel Perkins be restored to his old rank in the navy. The Colonel Perkins case had dismissed the charge of moral unbecomeliness. Representative Howard told the committee that Colonel Perkins was mentally sound at the time of his trial, and that he is mentally sound at this time. Hearings on the Howard bill for the relief of Colonel Perkins will be continued next week.

KANSAS IS MAKING FIGHT ON RABBITS

Slaughter Parties Held Every Day, but Still Crop Multiplies.

Topeka, Kan., December 10.—The poor of Kansas need not worry much about the meat problem this winter. Rabbits by the millions will be turned over to them as the result of the greatest crop of cottontails and jackrabbits the State has known since pioneer days.

In the eastern counties big rabbit hunts, in which from fifty to 500 persons participate, are being held daily. In nearly every case the hunters take sides, the side killing the fewest rabbits paying for an oyster supper or some other form of entertainment for the side killing the most.

In a hunt near Princeton, ten miles south of Topeka, 1,535 rabbits were killed, one boy alone killing ninety-three. In a hunt in Franklin county a few days later 630 rabbits were killed, and in still another more than 800 were killed. In Barton county thirty-two men killed 872 jackrabbits and nearly 100 cottontails. Hunters say that rabbits are so thick that the winter's hunting will make little diminution in the number.

Besides the club hunters, market hunters are killing rabbits by the thousands in every county, and it is not unusual for commission men to ship the rabbits to the Eastern markets by the carload. The rabbits are first allowed to freeze and then are packed in ice. The average price paid averages 25 cents a dozen for jacks and 50 to 75 cents for the small cottontail. One jackrabbit will make a good meal for a family of five.

In the Western part of the State the rabbit is an important factor this winter in the lives of the drought-stricken farmers, many of whom were left almost penniless by the failure of crops last summer. In each county a bounty of 5 cents is paid for a rabbit scalp, and in some of the counties the scalps are coming in at the rate of 1,000 a day. In Sheridan county alone bounty has been paid on 10,179 scalps in the last month. This does not include the thousands of rabbits shipped out by buyers.

Wolves are also numerous in Western Kansas this year. The scalps bring a bounty in all of the counties, and hundreds of them are being brought in. In many cases the lack of food has made the wolves and coyotes desperate, and at least two cases have been reported of their chasing human beings. They have done a great deal of damage on cattle ranches, and sheep men also have suffered heavy losses.

Skunks are also reported to be a pest in the western part of the State, killing many chickens. But skunk pelts are valuable, and fur dealers say that large shipments are coming from the western part of the State. Judging from the shipments of gopher pelts, the boys are finding the trapping very good in Kansas this year. Thousands of the pelts are being shipped in from the small towns. The pelts bring 3 cents each.

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